TIMES-VIRGINIAN

In the Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt

Appomattox, Virginia

ESTABLISHED 1892

Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Robinson ..... *Editors and Publishers*

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February

The trees stand wistful in the square,
with a half-expectant air;
The sky is a slender silver bell
That waits to sound the knell
of Winter.

—Anne Mary Lawler.

It seems that no sooner has the new year arrived than February is knocking on the doorstep. The arrival of the second month in the year signifies that one-twelfth of 1957 is at an end.

February is a deep winter month, and it is cold throughout the most parts of the country and is perhaps the bitterest month of winter. Only January usually rivals it seriously for this honor.

February in 1957 has twenty-eight days, whereas February in 1956 was a Leap Year February, with twenty-nine days. That means that 1957 will be over a day earlier than 1956.

The first quarter of the moon will appear on February 7th and will reach the full stage on the 4th. The last quarter will be observed on the 21st. If you are interested, the moon will be at full at exactly eleven hours and thirty minutes A. M., on the 14th, when, of course, it will not be visible.

Morning stars in February will be Mercury, Venus, Jupiter and Saturn. The evening star will be Mars.

Days will continue to get longer during February, the first day of the month being exactly ten hours long, while the last, on the 28th, will be over eleven hours long — eleven hours and eleven minutes, to be exact.

The major birthdays in February are, as all Americans know, Lincoln's Birthday, on February 12th, and Washington's Birthday, on February 22nd. St. Valentine's Day falls on the 14th, which is the night of the full moon, which happens only once in every so many decades.

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On Weeks And Months

Promoters have done a pretty thorough job on the fifty-two weeks in the year, and the twelve months. For example, in addition to the charity drives and major celebrations, and events during the month of January, the month was also Golden Rule Month and Supermarket Month.

In January, certain weeks were Oderless Decoration Week. Take Tea and See Week, Idaho Potato and Onion Week, and son. A national Potato Chip Week was also thrown in.

February is the Apple for Teacher Month, which we are not able to explain, and includes such weeks as National Weight Watchers Week and National Pimiento Week.

In March comes Return of Borrowed Books Week, as well as National Peanut Week. There is also National Smile Week, and a Pancake Day.

That about brings us up to date for the immediate future, although we know our readers will want to start preparing now for National Domestic Rabbit Week, which falls in May.

Another period to look forward to is National Dents Out Of Fenders Month, which comes in June. In fact, June has a lot of stunning celebrations, such as American Fresh Water Pearl, Dairy, Portable Radio and National Ragweed Control celebrations. Thinking the list over, we can hardly wait for June to come.

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Why Firms Seek Small Towns

For some months now, efforts have been in progress to secure an industrial pay-roll, for men, in Appomattox.

A national weekly newspaper recently reported on the trend of big business to move to new plants into smaller towns. The report was highly enlightening.

One firm which had operated in a large metropolitan area for half a centry, has recently erected plants in two small communities and the company head reports that the firm is delighted with the results.

In the first place, he said, the business had been virtually unknown in the large city and workers were not in touch with the needs of people in smaller towns who used the product manufactured. In the small towns, where the two new plants were opened, citizens were eager to have the new plants locate in their community and helped raise money for the building, on a loan basis, and took great interest in the business enterprise. They were happy, contented, good workers and had the interest of the business at heart.

Labor relations in such a plant, and in a community which appreciates the location of such a plant, are the best.

These are the reasons, in brief, why so many big corporations are building plants in the nation's smaller communities. This is good for the nation and produces good management - labor relations, and for that reason the trend will probably accelerate in the coming years.

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Congratulations On Birthday

The Times-Virginian is happy to take note of the sixth birthday of The Patricia Ann Leader, a newsy monthhly publication of the fine folks at The Appomattox Garment Company, Inc. This monthhly tabloid is aimed to chronicle a record of events of interest in the life of the employees, and on top of that, it presents news and comments of major interest in the industry itself. The combination makes a most readable paper, and as the firm itself has expanded in recent years, so has the newsworthiness of The Patricia Ann Leader. Now, that the paper has reached its sixth birthday, we feel it very much in order to offer our congratulations, and to express the hope that both The "P. A. L." and Appomattox Garment Company will have countless happy years ahead in Appomattox. We shudder to think of Appomattox without this fine payroll industry! We hope our community will give every possible bit of cooperation to the management and the employees.

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Home is what the family makes it.

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The age of a man often has little relation to his sense.

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Every city and village keeps quiet about its climate during a cold spell.

THE BIBLE SPEAKS

International Uniform Series Sunday Lessons

BY DR. KENNETH J. FOREMAN

Background Scripture: Matthew 9:35 to 12.

Devotional Reading: Matthew 10:34-42

Going Concern

Lesson for February 3, 1957

A "GOING concern" is one that prospers, does business and keeps growing. If the Christian church is not a going concern, maybe the reason is that it is not a going concern. That remark needs explaining; it is not meant as nonsense.

Concern?

The Quakers have a good word: Concern, which has a deeper meaning than "firm" or business. It means warm, deep, even self-sacrificing interest in some one or some group or cause. Lincoln had a concern for the Union; St. Paul had a concern for Gentiles; mothers have a concern for their children. Now the church, if it is the true Body of Christ, ought to share his concerns. We know what it was that concerned him—people, the "multitudes," the masses as we now speak of them. The church ought to have—and to be—a living concern for all sorts and conditions of men.

Dr. Foreman

A church without the human, humane concern which Jesus had, is not what Christ intended.

Going?

Furthermore, the church, so far as it is Christian, ought to be a **going** concern, not only a sitting one—not only a praying one either. Plenty of churches are (so to speak) sitting concerns. The preacher preaches about "lost" people but nobody gets out to hunt for them—perhaps the preacher doesn't look very hard himself. The members talk to one another about the dreadful state of the world, but they do nothing about it. Missions? What's that? The fact that their denomination is actually going into the ends of the earth, and begs them for help, does not get through to their minds. (Maybe the preacher's fault again?) They have a concern for the sad state of the world, but it's not a going concern, only a talking concern, a tut-tutting concern,—nothing alive. So the church dwindles and dies, it's not a going concern any longer because it **isn't a going concern**,—it has no real **concern**, and it never **goes** anywhere.

No Mission, No Church

The first Christian church was the twelve apostles. It was a 100% going concern. Jesus did not plan for any of them to remain behind. The directions he gave them are not now followed by any missionary society that has much success; circumstances alter Christian strategy. But all the same, suppose those twelve men had preferred not to go when Jesus sent them? He chose them for two purposes, we read: to be with him and to be sent out. There are always Christians who enjoy worship better than service. Ten people will be out for church, to one who will come out for volunteer service, of any sort. But there came a time when Jesus had to say (in effect) to his closest friends: You have been with me enough. You have heard all you need to hear, learned all you need to learn—for now. Go out now and change people, change the world, in my name! If they had refused, if Jesus could have found no one willing to go, there never would have been a Christian church. And if the church ceases to be missionary today it will become a fossil, a relic, a curiosity, without life or usefulness.

"I Wouldn't Be Here If . . ."

Not everybody can become a foreign missionary. (Indeed the Twelve were sent out first to a region smaller than Vermont; their home country.) But there are various ways in which the church can go out, and send out. There is a man who has found his life's chief work and interest in developing the moral and spiritual atmosphere of the schools in his state. He said not long ago to a group of religious workers: "I wouldn't be here if my church didn't feed me." What he is doing is outside the church; he works through public agencies of the State. But his inspiration comes from the church. And his church would not have inspired him and "fed" him if in turn it had not been inspired and fed by the Living Bread. Where the church as an organization cannot go, its members, stirred and supported by the Spirit of God, must go, into life everywhere, in the name of Jesus.

(Based on outline copyrighted by the Department of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. Released by Community Press Service.)

Washington Notes

F.I. C. A. TAX

Beginning January 1, the rate of contribution for employees and employers to Federal Social Security was raised from 2 per cent to 2 1-4 per cent. This tax, of course, applies only to the first $4,200 of salary or wages earned. For self-employed persons, the Social Security tax moves up from 3 per cent to three and three-eighths per cent. The increased tax will go into a special fund to finance disability benefits recently authorized by Congress.

INCOME TAX CUT?

Higher Governmental costs and an anticipated record peacetime budget is expected to rule out any general income tax reduction in the present session of Congress. Bipartisan support has developed in Congress during the recess for some revision of business excise (sales) tax laws and for tax aid to small business men.

MILITARY BUDGET

President Eisenhower's military budget for fiscal 1958 asks a total of $39,200,000,000. Of the total, the Air Force is expected to receive $17,800,000,000, which is $2,400,000,000 higher than requested last year and about $1,000,000,000 more than the upwardly revised estimate he sent Congress last August. The Navy will get $11,200,000 under the budget, the Army $10,000,000,000 and $200,000,000 for Defense Department expenses.

MEAT PRICE RISE

The Agriculture Department has predicted that consumers will pay higher prices for meat this year since total meat production is expected to be less than in 1956, particularly pork. Retail prices on choice beef will stay above 1956 levels throughout the winter and spring and are likely to climb again in the fall, but at a slower rate.

SHEEP POPULATION

Sheep and lambs on feed for the slaughter marked numbered 4,168,000 on January 1, or 5 per cent more than a year earlier, according to the Agriculture Department. This was the biggest count since 1948. A substantial part of the increase was in the Midwestern Corn Belt states, where the number was 2,424,000, or 10 per cent more than a year earlier.

THE A. E. C.

The AEC, marking its tenth birthday, reported that its investment in plant, property and equipment now totals nearly $7,000,000,000. In 1947—its first year—its capital investment came to $1,200,000,000. It now costs about $2,000,000,000 a year to operate the AEC's far-flung and vast program.

AUTO PRODUCTION

January output of 647,000 units is predicted by the auto industry, against 597,083 in December. At this rate of production, the output of units would top December output by 8 per cent.

MENTAL PATIENTS

The National Association for Mental Health reports that a break has occurred in the steady increase of mental patients in this country. Some state hospitals have reported that last year, for the first time, their discharges of cured or improved patients was catching up with the intake of new patients. In 1955 mental patients increased by only 6,000 as compared to an average annual rise of 12,000 over the last ten years. Some of the progress was attributed to the effectiveness of modern treatment such as psychotherapy, tranquilizing drugs, and electroshock, and the fact that more patients are getting treatment instead of custodial care.

NOT ALL ROSES

Boston, Mass.- Antonio J. Sena, who won $138,000 in the Sweepstakes two years ago, says his winnings have cost him friends and customers. Sena's former wife is seeking an increase in the $25 weekly support for herself and their two children.

'INVENTORY' BANDIT

Dallas, Texas.- A would-be robber at a drive-in grocery was told by the young man behind the counter that the store was closed for business and that he was taking inventory." The "inventory" the young man took included the money in the cash register. Locked up in a rear room of the store's two employees.

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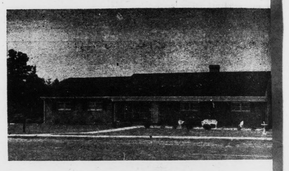

Richard D. Robinson

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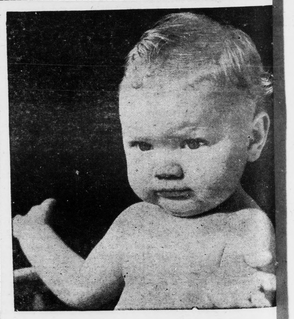

"Where does Mother's time go? She's always busy; seems to have less and less time for fun with me . . ."

GAIN PRECIOUS TIME FOR LIFE'S PRECIOUS THINGS: PAY BILLS BY MAIL, WITH CHECKS — DRAWN ON US!

THE
Farmers National Bank
APPOMATTOX
VIRGINIA

MEMBER FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Home Agent's Notes

By Mrs. B. G. Anderson
Home Demonstration Agent

Though Spring doesn't begin officially until March 20th, it's not early to be thinking about the cleaning and brightening up home for the Spring and Summer months ahead. It's easy to make the home as bright and cheery as the sunshine with the new paints and dyes on the market today. Does you have some curtains put away that were faded from last year's sun. If so, it is a good idea to dye them out and tint them to fit your Spring color scheme. Most of the tints on the market have directions on the package for tinting right in the washing machine. It might be a good idea to cover your slip covers to see if they tinting wouldn't brighten frames; are they an odd color? If they are a bit. It might be that you plan to change your whole color scheme and if so, tinting can save buying all new materials to harmonize with your chosen colors.

While you're at it, it will soon be time to get out those Spring and Summer clothes that were put away when cold weather appeared. It is easy to change the color of your clothes using commercially prepared tints.

Cast a careful eye over your wardrobe. You may have a white sweater which is at the dull, drab stage where it will look better blue. Perhaps you need some yellow gloves to match a yellow dress. How about your flesh-colored eye-glass an article is not wearable as it is consider the possibility of tinting it. You have nothing to lose!

Pink, blue, pale green, yellow, red and various other tints will do a lot toward brightening up your wardrobe.

Follow directions on the package carefully and also directions in your washing machine book when tinting.

Also, as insurance against spots and streaks, dissolve the dye carefully in a small amount of water and strain it through a cloth. Then add the dye to the hot water. For very light colors use less than the full package.

After you have finished your tinting job, if you have used your washing machine, clean the machine by letting it fill with hot water, adding a washing compound and letting the machine go through a complete cycle of washing and rinsing. While we're brightening up the home with color, let's look around and see if we have worn spots in the rugs that need repair. If you do have a weak spot in a rug because it gets a bit of wear in certain places, you can reinforce the rug by tacking burlap or canvas to the underside and darning through it. Use a coarse needle, heavy button thread and loose stitches. To raise pile on surface of rug, dampen it, press under a cloth, then brush with a whisk broom in direction of nap. Incidentally, if you can turn the rug about in the room so the worn place will be located where there isn't too much traffic, this will help. It's a good idea to turn rugs around frequently to distribute wear. If you are planning to refinish furniture, and the particular piece of furniture has dents in it, lay a piece of damp wool cloth or blotting paper over the dent and press with a hot iron. The steam will swell and wood and if dents aren't too deep they will disappear.

FREE TRIP TO FLORIDA

Muskegon, Mich.- Burdette Grey, owner of the Gray Trailer Sales Company, of this city, is giving his 12-man sales forces and their families an expense-paid two-week vacation in Florida. The trips were in addition to Christmas bonuses.

TWO PINTS A DAY

San Francisco.- Jim Garner, a college student and hemophilia victim, needs two pints of blood a day to keep alive. Fellow students at San Francisco State College keep him supplied with the necessary blood for transfusions. Garner is married and has an 18-month old son.

Health insurance plans cover 70 per cent in the U. S.

Dial 2811 with Personals.

BLAST KILLS 3, HURTS 18

Ridgway, Col.- Several hundred spectators gathered in near freezing weather to watch a fire roaring out of control at a county highway garage. Suddenly twelve cases of dynamite stored in the building exploded and three persons were killed and eighteen were injured when the blast leveled the building.

U. S. plans to limit Japanese textiles to 5 per cent of 1955.

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Little story about a big partnership

The Norfolk and Western's "product" is transportation...freight service and passenger service which people need in business and in private life.....

From the income it receives as payment for its "product" the N&W employs many people, and last year provided jobs for a Norfolk and Western Family of 21,113 and paid them $102½ million ...these millions of N&W payroll dollars pass from employees to "the butcher, the baker and the candlestick maker." They promote PROSPERITY wherever they go. Also, to provide dependable rail service the N&W is a big purchaser of MATERIALS, SUPPLIES and SERVICES (last year its "shopping bill" amounted to $40,485,000) and a large part of these purchases are made, year in and out, from business firms located "along the line" ... these dollars, too, help build a bigger PROSPERITY... During the past 15 years 1941 1956 our population has increased tremendously ...millions of new jobs are needed and the best source is industry ...with a strong staff of plant location specialists and extensive, consistent ADVERTISING, the N&W has forcefully joined civic and other business interests to develop new industry and new jobs. Last year in the territory it serves—the Land of Plenty — 64 new plants were located and 94 established industries were expanded at a capital investment of $220 million, creating 10,700 JOBS for "folks along the line"...and finally the N&W's taxes last year-Federal, State and Local-were over $45 million. These tax dollars are paid from unsubsidized income, lightening the individual's tax load by helping substantially to build and support public schools and highways, and to provide police and fire protection, parks, libraries and many other public benefits.

Because the railroad receives its income from business and people and, in turn, serves business and people in these and other ways, a very real partnership exists between the N&W and "folks along the line." As we move forward together in this New Year, the Norfolk and Western will continue to serve in the best ways possible.

Norfolk and Western Railway

PAYING ITS OWN WAY...ALL THE WAY...ALL THE TIME!